

BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS RECEIVE FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

This week, the Pine Valley Volunteer Fire Department received a refurbished fire engine and the Ruby Valley Volunteer Fire Department received a water tender from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Under the Rural Fire Assistance program, BLM Elko Rural Fire Coordinator Shane McDonald handed over the keys and title to a surplus BLM fire engine to Hale Bailey, Chief of the Pine Valley Volunteer Fire Department. Al Case of the Nevada Division of Forestry accepted the water tender on behalf of the Ruby Valley Volunteer Fire Department.

The engine and water tender transfer is part of an ongoing effort to enhance the fire protection capabilities of rural fire districts, under the National Fire Plan. Assisting rural areas is a major goal of the National Fire Plan in Nevada. This assistance includes grants to benefit rural areas, as well as assistance to volunteer, rural and tribal fire departments. Providing these rural fire departments with more modern, reliable fire engines and equipment improves both the performance and the safety of these volunteer firefighters.

BLM has been working with its federal, state and local wildland firefighting partners, in an effort to use this additional funding to help enhance the capabilities of volunteer and tribal fire departments in the areas of training, supplies and materials, equipment, as well as prevention and education programs.

Pine Valley Volunteer Fire Department Chief Hale Bailey commented on the engine transfer, "It's a great deal for our volunteer fire department."

Nevada Division of Forestry Acting Regional Forester Tom Turk remarked, "Turning the engine over to Pine Valley and the water tender to Ruby Valley will be a big benefit to fighting fire in Elko and Eureka Counties."